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May 21, 2003

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**PRISONER CHARGED WITH
POSSESSION OF WEAPON**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that GERALD L. JONES, 33, U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute, Indiana, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for possession of contraband while in prison, following an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

The indictment alleges that on August 25, 2002, a correctional officer at USPTH conducted a random pat search of inmate Gerald L. Jones in a corridor area of the penitentiary.

At that time, the officer felt a foreign object on the prisoner so the officer

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proceeded to a full search of Jones. The officer found a 7 inch long and 1 inch wide tapered plastic sharpened instrument with a black shoestring lanyard in Jones' clothing.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James M. Warden, who is prosecuting the case for the government, Jones faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Terre Haute.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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